

Mint of the United States,  
Oct. 24. 1838.

Sir,

Your letter dated this day, making inquiries in regard to procuring small coins, is just received.

In reply I have to state that the regulations of the Mint require, that, to obtain Silver Coins, a deposit of Silver bullion, or foreign Silver Coins, should be made at the Mint; where, also, the Coins are paid in return, thus requiring the agency of some one at Philadelphia.

Such is the demand for small Silver Coins at present, that, I am sorry to say, you would be obliged to wait for Coins at least three weeks after the deposit had been made. Our Chief-Coiner wishes me to say that a deposit of five-franc pieces, or of Mexican Dollars, could soonest be returned in American small Coins.

Yours, very respectfully,

R. M. Patterson, Director;

per Geo. T. Downing,

Director's Clerk.

To,

Ira Smith, Esq.,  
Burlington, N.H.